



City of New Bedford  
Scott W. Lang, Mayor

City of New Bedford  
Office of the Mayor  
Contact: Elizabeth Treadup  
(508) 979-1410  
[Elizabeth.Treadup@ci.new-bedford.ma.us](mailto:Elizabeth.Treadup@ci.new-bedford.ma.us)

Date: April 9, 2007  
For Immediate Release

## P R E S S   R E L E A S E

### MAYOR ACKNOWLEDGES COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT WEEK

**NEW BEDFORD MA** – New Bedford Mayor Scott Lang is inviting city residents, community agencies and local officials to officially acknowledge National Community Development Week.

New Bedford's celebration will kick off on April 11, 2007 at the New Bedford Art Museum, 608 Pleasant Street, New Bedford at 10:00 a.m. At that reception, the Mayor will officially proclaim National Community Development Week in New Bedford and will present the annual Sister Rose Award. The Award is named in honor of its first recipient, Sister Rose Ellen Gallogly, Executive Director of Market Ministries and one of the founding members of the Homeless Service Provider Network.

The Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program is the largest federal program that provides grants to states, cities and counties to design neighborhood based approaches to improve the physical, economic and social conditions in communities throughout the country like New Bedford. In the coming fiscal year, the City of New Bedford will receive \$3.1 million in CDBG funding.

Community Development Week 2007 marks the 33rd Anniversary of the CDBG program in operation in the City of New Bedford. The City has received over \$126 million over the course of the past 33 years. The CDBG program has provided a critical revenue source that revitalizes New Bedford's neighborhoods and directly assists City residents that are in need.

Some of the programs being funded with CDBG in the current year include:

- Park and Playground Improvements to the Gomes School, Robert Clemente/Pires Park, Hazelwood Park, and Ashley Park.
- Public Facility renovations to the Hillman Street Gymnasium and surrounding buildings, street and sidewalk improvements in the West End neighborhood, and renovations to the Victory Park Warming House

- Assistance totaling \$525,000 to 28 non-profit and city agencies to carryout public service activities such as; summer youth employment and programming, senior social programs, immigrant assistance, homeless prevention, individuals with disabilities, legal assistance and art therapy.
- Economic development assistance to attract new businesses to New Bedford and to create new jobs and to expand existing businesses.

The CDBG Program is administered nationally by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development and locally by the Office of Housing and Community Development, 608 Pleasant Street, New Bedford. For additional information on the CDBG Program please contact Patrick J. Sullivan, Housing and Community Development Director.

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